

# IHC chief to lead hospital association

16 Aug 1984 Des News

Scott S. Parker, president of Inter-mountain Health Care Inc., was elected Wednesday to the highest office of the American Hospital Association.

Parker will serve as chairman-elect of the AHA in 1985, and in 1986 will automatically become chairman of the 25-member board of trustees of the association, which is the major voice of America's hospitals. It represents 6,300 health care institutions, 35,000 individual members and more than 3 million Americans engaged in health care activities.

The board governs the association and makes all final policy recommendations.

Parker has been a member of the

AHA board of trustees since 1979 and was a member of the group's advisory panel on multihospital systems. He is a fellow of the American College of Hospital Administrators and was president of the Arizona Hospital Association in 1967. From 1978 to 1981, he was chairman of the board of governors of Associated Hospital Systems, a consortium of multihospital groups.

IHC owns and operates 23 hospitals in Utah, Idaho and Wyoming and is involved in shared purchasing and other group efforts with several hundred other Western hospitals. Parker was named IHC president in 1975 when The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints divested its church hospitals.



Scott S. Parker

Johnson &amp; Stillman



# MEMO



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FROM: SCOTT S. PARKER

DATE: AUGUST 23, 1984

SUBJ: ASSOCIATED HEALTH SYSTEMS

Recent articles in the local daily newspapers concerning the merger between Associated Health Systems of Phoenix and United Healthcare Systems of Kansas City have caused confusion about IHC's role. We have had numerous queries from friends of IHC asking if we have been taken over by an outside organization or wondering just what this merger means.

Let me explain.

In 1978 IHC helped form Associated Health Systems, a joint venture cooperative with 12 other multihospital systems and IHC. The Associated Health Systems was organized to allow multihospital systems to work together on cost containment and to share services. A good example of the joint efforts of the cooperative is our volume purchasing program. Rather than buying supplies and equipment for IHC's 23 hospitals alone, we cooperate with Associated Health Systems member hospitals, approximately 150 hospitals, and we all enjoy a much larger volume discount.

Last week at the AHA annual convention in Denver, Associated Health Systems and United Healthcare Systems of Kansas City, a similar cooperative organized in the Midwest several years ago, merged to form a larger organization, American Healthcare Systems. This new merged cooperative will provide even greater benefits to sponsoring hospital systems.

The merger does not affect IHC's structure, ownership or operations. It is simply an association of sister multihospital systems to which we belong. In fact, IHC and other member systems' presidents sit on the board of, and direct the newly formed American Healthcare Systems.

I regret the confusion caused by the inaccurate news articles. I hope this explanation sets the matter straight. Our involvement and participation in American Healthcare Systems is of great value to IHC.

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